TARC NEWSLETTER

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SEPTEMBER, 1996

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 SECRETARY: Marty Coin WD4JNM 264-9447
V.PRESIDENT: Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building
TARC Nets: VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910
Friendship - Thursdays at 1830 hrs on 146.910
Mosquito - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC Repeaters: VHF - 146.910 and 146.970. UHF - 444.150

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Good ole Labor Day has come and gone and our many friends who have spent the summer "up north" will be returning to Florida. As always it will be so nice to have those we miss back with us. Sherry and I went "up north" again this year to the Shelby NC hamfest and then on to Hillville, VA and to one of the nation's largest flea markets.

While at the Shelby Hamfest we had the pleasure of visiting with Walt, N4WIN. Walt lives in Kannapolis NC and has been a member of TARC several years. Walt commented that he enjoyed the TARC newsletter...thanks Becky. In addition to Walt there was Norm AA4FY and Darwin KS4BD who assisted in the performance of line item inspection and approval of the goodies at the hamfest.

At the October meeting, in accordance with the TARC by-laws, a nominating committee will be appointed. Give thought to your choice of officers to serve in the upcoming year. Election of officers will be made at the November meeting and installation of same will take place at the December meeting.

Don't forget to come to the September 24 club meeting 30 minutes early (6:30 PM). The annual pot luck dinner is scheduled for that night. Bring a covered dish and your spouse or a friend.

It is a pleasure to welcome the new members into the club. We hope that you will come to the meetings and participate in all the club functions.

TARC's Hamfest on November 9, 1996 is going to be fun. If you haven't volunteered to serve on a committee be sure and contact either Clyde K4EOS or Bud K4CWG and get involved. You will enjoy the activities.

Don't forget the Bike ride every Sunday at 7:30 AM, Black Point Wildlife Preserve...Harley owners have to pedal like the rest of us.

REMINDER

POT LUCK SUPPER
SEPT. 24 - 6:30 PM
JAYCEE BUILDING

BRING A COVERED DISH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPT. 1	WB4SIG	DAVE McLEAN
SEPT. 3	KC4HUG	FAYE MARTIN
SEPT. 3	000000	PAT RENNINGER
SEPT. 5	KA4N2M	DICK RUFFE
SEPT. 7	KE4MWG	PAMELA QUARNOCCIO
SEPT. 9	W4YWA	DICK McKLVEEN
SEPT. 12	K4DII	FRED McKENZIE
SEPT. 14	W4VQB	BOB NEDIMYER
SEPT. 15	KC4HIQ	SHIRLEY SWEATT
SEPT. 15	KE4JAV	TOM YENCSO
SEPT. 15	W1BSO	MAYNARD CHENEY
SEPT. 19	KD4CBV	GEORGE BORTLE
SEPT. 20	KE4MNL	CALVIN HENSHAW
SEPT. 20	KF4CXZ	DEBORAH HARRINGTON
SEPT. 21	KE4YQN	BILL KING
SEPT. 24	KE4JBF	JOAN HATFIELD
SEPT. 27	KF4IGJ	CLIFF HILL
SEPT. 27	WA4QJK	TOM McCALL
SEPT. 28	WB2UNK	GEORGE FLORES
SEPT. 28	KD4UZS	JOE CARTER
SEPT. 30	KC7QDT	ALAN ERICKSON

AUGUST 13, 1996 BEARS REPORT

By Ralph AE4LE

An update letter of appointment is requested from all Emergency Control Centers for representative and alternate to the BEARS meetings. This is requested to be submitted prior to the September meeting.

BEARS will be picking up a 23 foot recreational vehicle to repair and establish a mobile radio control center. The vehicle is being donated (first offered to TARC) by a civilian in Mims.

BEARS now has its Incorporation Charter, Federal Employee I.D.#, and 501 (c) 3. This allows them to accept gifts and to acknowledge the gifts (for tax purposes).

A run down of the responsibilities of each person stationed in the Emergency Support Function for Emergency Management was enumerated. All communications are consolidated through one person: Mass care/food/water under another; Special Needs under another; Animal care under another, etc.

VOAD is scheduling a workshop for all Emergency Volunteers for November 2, 1996, at the Cocoa Senior Center. For more information call 267-9418.

ATTENTION to ALL members who have not obtained the Amateur Radio Emergency Service I.D.: Saturday morning at the Melbourne Hamfest will be all facilities to obtain such. This is an identification card, necessary to pass through police lines and clear one for Emergency Volunteer work during a disaster. This is a very important identification for TARC members who wish to take part in such activities.

Of interest to TARC members is the BEARS ATV weather coverage communicated on Channel 57 and Cocoa Repeater input #2. This is updated weather maps and storm information. Call 267-9418 AE4LE if you would like to have a firm commitment for shelter assignment during a hurricane.

THE "VC" KEY

By AC4WM Mitch MATHENEY

I am sorry to admit that Morse code was just a stepping stone or barrier to go through to upgrade my license. Well, recently code paid off!

I work on a crew boat in the Gulf of Mexico, servicing oil rigs for Shell Oil. On Sunday, June 16, I was making way off-shore approximately 120 miles SW of New Orleans when it dawned on me to try and talk to our club. They meet every Sunday morning around 6:00 AM EST. The net is controlled by Les K4SJC on 7.165 lower sideband.

I had one major problem to overcome - the marine single sideband I was using only operated on upper sideband. Before I went to the gulf I talked with Dave, AC4JX to determine what frequency upper sideband falls on the lower sideband at 7.165. He told me that it was about 3 kHz lower. Of course I planned on bringing an oscillator and key to make the contact, but didn't have the time to

drum up the equipment and take it with me. Since I knew we had plenty of time before we reached the next rig, I decided to try and get through.

I gave the wheel to my deckhand, Clarence, and told him what course to steer (the radio is in the pilothouse). I could hear the "Mickey Mouse" voices on frequency and knew the club was there. I tried repeatedly by voice to get someone's attention, but they didn't seem to hear me.

I thought that maybe Morse code would get through. That's where the "VC" key comes into play....Vocal Cords! I made tones by singing dits and dahs (my deckhand thought I was going nuts.)

After two CW CQ's and a request to go to upper sideband, Bud K4CWG heard me and complied. I could not believe I had made the contact! Bud later told me he thought it was a Cuban station with an old military rig due to the strange tone of my CW.

After a most enjoyable QSO with home, I thought of the value of Morse code. I would not have made the contact if it weren't for the ability to transmit code, which I thought was more of an unnecessary requirement than an actual tool.

I hope I was in compliance with the rules as music and singing are not to be transmitted on HAM radio (Ha, Ha).

A quick thanks to everyone involved with TARC. What a fantastic club!

"CK'S ODE TO DAH CODE"
By Gary Spence VA2CK

We've all heard the cry "abandon the code!
It's useless outdated, NOT a mod-er-n mode!
So I said to myself could codes' day really be over?
Best left for SKs' fer-til-iz-n' the clover?

So off went my paddle 'n keyer to a museum,
so those curious of our "past" could drop in an' see um.
I then bought a computer and a box I was told . . .
would update my station, using all hi-tech modes.

It then was set up, all by my own hand . . .
the screen it lit up et viola Heard Is-land!

I switched to transmit to "talk with this gent"
but my screen read "sorry, can't copy 100%!
There's static interference if you could hear it you'd agree
if it ain't armchair copy we machines cry c'est la vie!"
It then said "there is as YOU know a way to get through,
it's called the code, and what luck for you!"

"You've learned this art - you stuck it out.
'tis a valuable tool, there isn't a doubt.
You invested your time and besides the code you learned
possession of valuable skills must be. . . .EARNED!"

So I say to you now, don't get fooled when some say. . .
"Codes an old dinosaur fadin's away!
It's part of our past, present and future existence.
Anti-coders, prepare for "beau coup de resistance."

FOR SALE

KENWOOD TS830S
KENWOOD TS940S W/AT.

HARRY MITCHELL W4KAW
269-5940

NEW RF STANDARDS
From ARLB050

New FCC RF safety standards effective January 1, 1997, could affect the way some hams operate - perhaps especially those using vehicle-mounted antennas. As a result of a Report and Order adopted by the FCC on August 1 (ET Docket No. 93-62, Guideline for Evaluating the Environmental Effects of Radio frequency Radiation), Part 97 will require hams running more than 50 W PEP to conduct routine RF radiation evaluations to determine if RF fields are sufficient to cause human exposure to RF radiation levels in excess of those specified.

"Measurements made during a Commission/EPA study of several typical amateur stations in 1990 indicated that there may be some situations where excessive exposures could occur," the FCC said in ending the blanket

exemption for Amateur Radio. Amateur operation at power levels of 50 W PEP or less is "categorically excluded" from the exposure requirement in most cases. Where routine evaluation indicates that the RF radiation could be in excess of the limits, "the licensee must take action to prevent such an occurrence," the Report and Order stated.

The FCC said this could mean altering operating patterns, relocating the antenna, revising the station's technical parameters -- such as frequency, power, or emission type -- or "combinations of these and other remedies."

"Exactly what is involved in conducting a 'routine RF radiation evaluation' is not yet clear," observed ARRL Executive Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, adding that the FCC has promised to release a revised OST/OET Bulletin Number 65, "Evaluation Compliance with FCC-Specified Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radio frequency Radiation." The League is now studying the 100 plus page docket to see if the League should seek reconsideration of any aspects of the FCC decision. Sumner noted that the FCC expects it will not be difficult for most amateur stations to show that the specified limits will be met.

Sumner said that for High-power mobile operation and for operation with indoor antennas, particularly in apartment buildings and other situations where there is "uncontrolled exposure" to neighbors and the general public, "amateurs may well have to make changes in how they operate." He said the ARRL Lab staff and the RF Safety Committee will be evaluating the new requirements.

SAFEX SPACE REPEATER IS ON THE AIR

From Amateur Radio Newsline #990

A European built FM repeater is now on the air from space. This, according to word passed down from the Mir space station by United States astronaut Shannon Lucid who says the repeater known as SAFEX came to life on July 17 at 14:05 UTC.

According to astronaut Lucid, SAFEX is using the call sign RR0DL with an uplink or input of 447.750 MHz and outputting on 437.950 MHz. Access requires a 141.3 Hz Continuous Tone Coded Squelch, better known to US hams under the Motorola trademark of PL.

Lucid says that the repeater is located in Mir's Priroda module. She adds that its wise to check 437.925 MHz for the beacon voice recorder that announces that Mir is within range of your QTH.

If you happen to hear RR0DL and want to try a QSO through it, initial reports indicate that it takes at least 25 watts output into a pretty good antenna to make the trip. Dave Larsen, N6LJH was one of the first to hear and use RR0DL. He reports on the AMSAT bulletin board that it required his use of a 35 element beam and 25 watts to access the space repeater and he has not been able to work through RR0DL with a mobile rig and a 5/8's wave antenna. This says Dave, even though Mir was in a 75 degree high elevation pass.

Dave Larsen also says to remember that the Mir moves very fast across the Earth - so make your contacts as short as you can. Also remember that this is an orbital repeater so there will be discernible Doppler shift as it approaches and departs your ground location. Doppler shift is estimated at as much as plus or minus 5 kHz.

And oh yes. RR0DL is one of the few repeaters that offers a QSL card for contacts made through it. DF0VR in Germany is its QSL Manager. His address is good in almost any late callbook or directory.

FCC CREATES A NEW LOW POWER RADIO SERVICE

From Amateur Radio Newsline #990

The FCC has adopted rules creating a new Low Power Radio Service in the 216-217 MHz band. The July 25 action means that LPRS will be authorized as a Personal Radio Service under Part 95 of the Commission's rules.

The Commission says that LPRS devices will be authorized on a secondary, non-interference basis. This, for short-range, lower power communications including auditory assistance devices for persons with disabilities, health care assistance devices for persons with illnesses, law enforcement tracking systems, and point-to-point network control communications for Automated Maritime Telecommunications Systems.

VANITY CALL SIGN APPLICATIONS

From ARRL Letter Update 8/2/96

The FCC's Larry Weikert in Gettysburg, PA, reports 3427 vanity call sign applications to date since the program began May 31. A small surge in applications followed the opening of Gate 1A on July 22. Weikert notes that the two-page Form 610 on white paper is acceptable since the FCC is allowing people to receive applications via the Internet and fax-on-demand.

BAD MANNERS CAN LEAD TO SPECTRUM LOSS

From Amateur Radio Newsline #988

A problem facing ham radio is the possible loss of almost exclusive use of several popular bands. At least one ham says that one of the reasons that 2 meters and 70 centimeters are both under scrutiny is that hams are failing to keep their operations squeaky clean. This says Phil Thomas N8LJA is definitely ammunition that will be used against us in the future:

"Right now, there is a possibility of losing our 2 meter and 440 MHZ bands to a newly formed group interested in using one or both of the bands for LEOs or Low Earth Orbiting Satellites. There will be several factors that will influence the FCC in what direction they will rule. One of the factors that will influence this commission will be the way amateurs police their bands.

Since the large influx of amateurs following the inception of the no-code license, there seems to have been a lack of teaching proper etiquette that is expected from the amateur community. Along with this, amateurs have seemed to have dropped the ball in the area of policing.

What will it take for our amateur community to return the amateur bands to the way they were? It will take every amateur, amateur clubs, and amateur organizations working hard with each other in a concerted effort of teaching and policing our amateur bands. This, and only this, will secure our amateur bands in the near future."

Phil Thomas, N8LJA is the producer of Amateur News Weekly. This is a ham radio information provider serving several mid-western states.

WE NEED AN ABOB

By Bob W4VQB

Actually, we need at least 4 Audio Break-Out Boxes to improve our field day operating positions. Maybe you would like to design and build one of these and if it's the cats meow, it could be copied three times.

Here's the problem; during field day it is desirable for the station operator to wear headphones to cut out extraneous noise and concentrate on making contacts. It's also a good idea to have an assistant to help monitor, log, etc., and maybe even a third person to work the computer.

When these helpers try to put their headphones in parallel we run into impedance mismatches and the fussiness of each one to what they consider the proper volume. Also, we might have an audience nearby who would like to have a loudspeaker running whose volume is separately controlled.

The solution is an Audio Break-Out Box that would accept the "phones" output of a transceiver and provide at least 3 independently controlled outputs to headphone jacks and a separately controlled loudspeaker output.

This could be 3 transistor amplifiers, an LM-386 for the loudspeaker, some volume controls and headphone jacks for standard and miniature plugs. Ideally, it should have its own power supply. Some ergonomics should be considered to place this under the transceiver or beside it to keep all those headphone cables from interfering with the operator.

This may not be an original idea, but it does represent a need to be filled. So root through your junk box and use your noodle to come up with an ABOB for the TARC.

POT LUCK SUPPER

SEPTEMBER 24 6:30 PM

TREASURERS REPORT

By K4EOS Clyde Lee

BALANCE FORWARD FROM 1995	2,780.03
DEPOSITS Year to date	7,014.28
TOTAL INCOME	$9,794.31
EXPENDITURES	$4,528.47
BALANCE AS AT 08/31/96	$5,265.84

WANTED

LOAN OF SEVERAL
PA HORN SPEAKERS
TO USE WITH OUR SOUND SYSTEM
ON NOV. 9 AT THE FOX LAKE
HAMFEST
CALL CLYDE K4EOS
267-9375

AUGUST MEETING

By Marty WD4JNM, Secretary

Bud K4CWG opened meeting at 1905 hours. During the Pledge of Allegiance Bill W2SDB played America The Beautiful on his harmonica.

After the introduction of members and guests, 10 new members were voted into the club.

August birthday celebrants were acknowledged, and Bill W2SDB played Happy Birthday on his harmonica.

Members were reminded to get their tickets for the Melbourne Hamfest beforehand and save a dollar on admission. Les K4SJC has tickets for sale.

Prize tickets for the Titusville Hamfest are also on sale. $1.00 each, or 6 for $5.00. Get your tickets from any of the following: Bud K4CWG, Pike W4EPU, Les K4SJC or Clyde K4EOS.

Don't forget to reserve your swap table for the TARC Hamfest. They are $5.00 each. Reserve them through Clyde K4EOS. 267-9375.

Cliff KC4SYD and Ralph AE4LE talked about the hurricane and tropical storms in the Atlantic, and reminded members that should one of these storms become a threat to our area, their help will be needed to man the evacuation shelters. You may take your family with you to the shelter.

After the break Don KE4LNS mentioned the blood bank account that has been set up for TARC. Should the need arise, blood is free to members and their families. You are also asked to give blood to the blood bank. Just tell them your donation is for the TARC account.

Bud K4CWG invited members and their families to join the Sunday morning bicycle ride at the refuge. Call him for details.

Sherry KF4HTC announced that the September meeting will be a pot luck supper starting at 6:30. Bring a covered dish to share.

In lieu of a speaker, Bud asked that members come forth and tell when and why they became interested in ham radio. This was so interesting and so much fun that Bud said he would ask more members to share their stories at future meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 2115 hours.

NEW LIFE FOR OLD HEATHKITS?

From August '96 DBARA Groundwave

The ARRL Lab's Mike Tracy, KC1SX, has uncovered a possible source for surplus Heathkit parts that Heath sold off a number of years ago. It's Spectrum Electronics, Eastern Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507, tel. 616-742-0613. Mike says that although Spectrum Electronics is strictly a repair business, if you let them know what specific Heath part number you are looking for, they may be able to provide it. However, he emphasizes that you be specific and use part numbers. For example, don't ask for "the plate cap in the SB-200."

Heathkit manuals often are available from: Hi Manuals, PO Box 802, Council Bluffs, IA 51502-0802, tel 712-323-9737; Manuals Plus (test equipment manuals only), PO Box 549, Tooele, UT 84074, tel 801-882-7188; or W7FG Vintage Manuals, 3300 Wayside Dr., Battlesville, OK 74006, tel 800-807-6146

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike W4EPU

Somewhere in southeast Missouri

As Clara and I travel through Southeast Missouri, commonly referred to as the Missouri Bootheel, a breaking story is being reported on all the local radio stations. (One of these stations is KBOA, Kennett, MO where I was station engineer in the late forties and actually the site where Clara and I first met.)

The story is about Jimmy Burton, a cotton farmer from Monette, AR. Jimmy was out on the town in Arbyrd, MO until after midnight on Saturday night. (To put things in prospective and so you readers will know exactly where Arbyrd, MO is, it is located 20 miles north of Monette, AR.)

Anyhow, at 1:00 AM Jimmy Burton found himself in the predicament of being without transportation home. He being an experienced cotton picker operator, simply swiped a shiny brand new cotton picking machine from the Baker Implement Company in Arbyrd. He then drove it to his home in Monette, parked it in his front yard, and retired.

Now, obviously, driving a cotton picking machine the size of the tractor portion of an 18 wheeler, 20 miles on a two lane highway at 1:00 AM on Sunday morning, not even in the harvest season, hardly went unnoticed.

By the time he was in a deep sleep, the sheriff of Mississippi County AR was already knocking on his door.

At this point in the story we are driving out of the listening area and will probably never know what will happen to Jimmy, except that he is probably in big trouble in two states.

Looking back on this unfolding episode as we travel along, we ponder these questions:

Will a cotton picker pick road signs and mail boxes as easily as it picks cotton? How much cotton can a cotton picker pick when a cotton picker picks cotton pickin' cotton? and, How many other uses are there for cotton pickin' cotton pickers besides picking cotton pickin' cotton?

We'll see y'all soon now, heah? 73s es 88s

OMISSIONS IMPOSSIBLE
WHAT A DIFFERENCE A LETTER MAKES

By Joan Hoag KE4SXU

POPEY: Catholic sailor man with large forearms.

POP JOHN: Much beloved owner of malt shoppe in Vatican City

GODFATHER, PAR 11: Golf course where they really know the meaning of sudden death playoffs.

ERLE STANLEY GARNER: Pianist best known for "Play Mystery for Me."

YOU MIGHT BE A TIGHTWAD IF. . . . .

#You gather complimentary mints and candy and save them for your children's Easter baskets.
#You wash your aluminum foil
#You have used a broom handle for a tent pole, a car travel clothes rod, a yard sale rod for hanging clothes, a curtain rod and a tomato stake all within a month.
#Your napkins have a restaurant name on them.
#Your coffee can piggy bank has paid for five family vacations.
#You thought "buy one, get one free," was a verse in the bible.
#Your idea of hors d'oeuvres is peanut butter and crackers.
#You get excited and plan for a week to go to the Dent and Save grocery store.
#You thought L.L.Bean was a seed company.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 278. (203 regular, 69 family, 6 honorary)

NEW MEMBERS: NOT YET GREGORY GAINES
NOT YET PAT RENNINGER
WD4EBA PAUL BERNHARDT
KF4JWS JERRY COLLINS
NOT YET SAVANNAH COLLINS
KF4LCO BILL QUINN
KE4LOF GARY COMMER
WA4QKJ TOM McCALL

RENEWALS: KE4AGM RICHARD LASURE
KE4AGO BILL REALY
KE4AUA LARRY BRUETT
KE4CDK BILL BLOOM
KF4IJP JOANNA BLUM
AC4DY TOM BURNS
KE4HOD HOWARD ENGLAND
W4LAC JASON RUDISIL
KE4MXI PETER LORENZI
KE4YQE HEIDI LORENZI
N4SCY OZZIE OSBORNE
W2TRX WALTER FANTON
AG4WM MITCH MATHENY

HAMFESTS:

9/14-15	Melbourne
9/14	Sunrise
9/22	New Port Richey
10/19	Starke
10/19-20	West Palm Beach
10/26	Port St. Lucie
11/2	Eustis/Mt.Dora
11/2	Sorrento
11/9	Titusville
11/23-24	Tampa
12/7	Okeechobee
12/7	Ocala
12/14	Lake City

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